

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN BOB DEPRATU**, on March 20, 2003 at 8:05 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Bob DePratu, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Bob Story Jr., Vice Chairman (R)  
Sen. Jerry W. Black (R)  
Sen. John C. Bohlinger (R)  
Sen. Jon Ellingson (D)  
Sen. Jim Elliott (D)  
Sen. Bill Glaser (R)  
Sen. Dan Harrington (D)  
Sen. Walter McNutt (R)  
Sen. Mike Taylor (R)  
Sen. Ken Toole (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Lee Heiman, Legislative Branch  
Shirley Herrin, Committee Secretary

**Video-taped Committee:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. A video-taped recording of the meeting is available from the Montana Historical Society.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 517, 3/10/2003  
Executive Action: SB 443  
SB 433 - Indefinitely Postponed  
SB 468 - Indefinitely Postponed

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 642**

8:04 **Motion:** SEN. BLACK moved that HB 642 BE CONCURRED IN.

8:05 Greg Jergeson, Public Service Commission, gave informational testimony regarding amendments proposed by **REP. RON DEVLIN**, SB064201.alh and **SEN. JIM ELLIOTT'S** amendment HB064202.alh. Commissioner Jergeson proposed additional amendments.

**Questions from the Committee:**

8:13 Begin

8:17 Robin McHugh, Attorney, Public Service Commission, responded to questions from the committee.

8:23 Mary Wright, MT Consumer Council, responded to questions.

8:24 Ended

11 min Time elapsed.

8:26 **CHAIRMAN DEPRATU** announced they would recess Executive Action on HB 642 to allow **SEN. ELLIOTT** to work with Lee Heiman to meld the proposed amendments.

**HEARING ON HB 517**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

8:27 **REP. BILL WILSON, HD 46, Great Falls** "Allow mill levies for airports that have not made levy request in two years."

**Proponents' Testimony:**

8:29 Deb Kottel, Chairman, Great Falls Airport Commission  
**EXHIBIT (tas59a01)**

8:34 Cynthia Schultz, Exec. Dir, Great Falls International Airport

8:35 Tom Ebser, Attorney, MT Airport Management Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Witness:**

8:37 **SEN. ROBERT STORY, SD 12, Park City**

8:38 Judy Paynter, Dept of Revenue **EXHIBIT (tas59a02)**

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

8:41 Begin

9:06 Ended

25 min Time elapsed.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

- 9:06       **REP. WILSON** closed on HB 517.
- 9:07       **CHAIRMAN DEPRATU** announced the emergency evaluation procedures in the event of an emergency. He stated the committee was to use the stairwell next to the elevator **(DO NOT USE THE ELEVATOR)**. Upon exiting the Capitol, all Senate employees are to meet in front of the Labor Building to check in with the Sgt-at-arms office.
- 9:17       **CHAIRMAN DEPRATU** announced the hearing on HB 539 will be rescheduled for Thursday, March 27th, as **REP. JOHN BRUEGGEMAN** was on the House floor.
- 9:18       **CHAIRMAN DEPRATU** appointed **SEN. JOHN BOHLINGER, SEN. JIM ELLIOTT** and himself to serve on a sub-committee on SB 462

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 443**

- 9:20       **Motion:** **SEN. TAYLOR** moved that **SB 443 DO PASS**. He addressed the bill.

**Discussion:**

- 9:22       Begin
- 9:38       Ended
- 16 min     Time elapsed.
- 9:40       **Vote:** **Do PASS Motion on SB 443 carried 6-5 with ELLINGSON, ELLIOTT, HARRINGTON, STORY, and TOOLE voting no on roll call vote number 1. ELLINGSON and MCNUTT voted by proxy.**

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 433**

- 9:41       **Motion:** **SEN. TOOLE** moved that **SB 433 DO PASS**. He spoke to the bill.
- 9:42       **CHAIRMAN DEPRATU** called a recess to welcome a group of students from the fifth grade of Rossiter School in Helena representing Montana Children's Agenda. Brooke Sampson, spokesman for the group, read a statement expressing their appreciation to the legislators. **EXHIBIT (tas59a03)** They passed out refreshments to the committee. Kassidee Dalton told the committee about their school.

9:48           **CHAIRMAN DEPRATU** reconvened the hearing on SB 433.

**Discussion:**

9:48           Begin  
9:55           Ended  
7 min          Time elapsed.

9:56           **SEN. TOOLE'S** motion that SB 433 DO PASS failed 1-10 with BLACK, BOHLINGER, DEPRATU, ELLINGSON, ELLIOTT, GLASER, HARRINGTON, MCNUTT, STORY, and TAYLOR voting no on roll call vote number 2. ELLINGSON and MCNUTT voted by proxy.

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**Motion/Vote:**   **SEN. STORY** moved that SB 433 BE INDEFINITELY POSTPONED AND THE VOTE REVERSED. Motion carried with TOOLE voting no.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 468**

9:57           **Motion:**   **SEN. HARRINGTON** moved that SB 468 DO PASS. He spoke to the bill.

**Discussion:**

10:01          Begin  
10:11          Ended  
10 min         Time elapsed.

10:11          **Motion/Vote:**   **SEN. HARRINGTON'S** motion that SB 468 DO PASS failed 9-2 with BLACK, BOHLINGER, DEPRATU, ELLINGSON, ELLIOTT, GLASER, MCNUTT, STORY, and TAYLOR voting no on roll call vote number 3. ELLINGSON and MCNUTT voted by proxy.

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**Motion/Vote:**   **SEN. STORY** moved that SB 468 BE INDEFINITELY POSTPONED AND THE VOTE REVERSED. Motion carried 9-2 with HARRINGTON and TOOLE voting no.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 10:15 A.M.

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SEN. BOB DEPRATU, Chairman

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SHIRLEY HERRIN, Secretary

BD/SH

**EXHIBIT (tas59aad)**